

## ABSTRACT

A method for determining whether a test compound binds to a target RNA, the method comprising the steps of: (a) contacting the test compound with the target RNA and a RNA-modifying enzyme; and (b) detecting the modification of the target RNA by the enzyme and comparing the amount of modification detected to that of a standard. Inhibition of enzymatic modification of the RNA target indicates that the test compound can bind the target RNA and can thus exhibit antibiotic activity.